

but there are 170 cosponsors on the repeal bill, so it is a threat that is imminent. And that is why I am so happy that the gentleman is alerting the rest of us here to the importance of motor voter, and at the same time the American viewing public that is interested and is looking at C-SPAN right now, to let them know that motor voter is good and motor voter is not safe.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Let me agree with you that motor voter is good, and it is necessary to open up the political process. As you well know, in our own State hundreds and thousands of people have been registered during the past 3 months. I think in Georgia more than 3,000 people every single day are being registered because of motor voter.

Ms. MCKINNEY. And we do not even have all of the counties on line yet. Just imagine what it would be like if we had all of the counties, 159 counties in Georgia, on line for motor voter. When that happens, Georgia will not be last anymore. I am so sick and tired of Georgia being last in most things. Georgia can become first, and it will also be first in democracy.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Let me just thank my colleague, the gentlewoman from the State of Georgia, CYNTHIA MCKINNEY, for participating in this special order tonight. I appreciate your help and all of your support. I think we have a moral obligation, a mandate, and a mission as Members of this body to do what we can to increase the political participation of all of our citizens. Open the process up, let everybody come in.

Ms. MCKINNEY. The gentleman knows that I have long admired his work and his advocacy on behalf of the American people and the American democracy.

Just a word about the nature of this discourse tonight: This is not about Democrat or Republican. This is about the American people and enhancing and fine-tuning our democracy. We do have, we are blessed in this country to have the most perfect democracy on the face of the Earth. Yet it can still be a whole lot better. Motor voter is but one tool to get us there, and I appreciate the gentleman and his strong leadership and advocacy. You know you have my support every step of the way.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Thank you very much for those kind words and for participating in this special order tonight.

Miss COLLINS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, the absolute need for the motor-voter law is clear. Without it, millions of American voters will continue to be denied equal access to the franchise by a bureaucratic opposition that simply does not make sense. Without it, millions of Americans will remain voteless, and voteless people are powerless people.

Like the Voting Rights Act, a thirty-year old success story itself, this new law has clearly begun to eclipse the barriers and the lingering legacy of voting booth exclusion that have had a "chilling" effect on the political participation

of African-Americans and other ethnic minorities in this country.

The motor-voter law is already a striking success in some states where discriminatory and unfair registration laws and procedures once prevailed. In states like Texas, Florida, and Georgia—where the history of voting discrimination has been most egregious—more than 200,000 previously unregistered voters have gained new opportunities to register to vote, at motor vehicle departments, public assistance offices, mental health and disability agencies, and by mail.

Instead of mouthing platitudes about democracy, we in this body ought to feel more compelled to make democracy a reality. But the truth is, until every American citizen has one-hundred percent, undeniable access to the ballot box, Democracy will be little more than an illusion. Democracy, it is said, is a "collectivity" of individuals. But there can be no democracy when millions of Americans remain shut out of the Democratic process.

Mr. Speaker, making voting more accessible to the public is not a partisan issue. In fact, Mr. GINGRICH himself has said that "it is simply good public policy."

Voting is the linchpin of American Democracy. Registering to vote should be as convenient as applying for a library card, or filling out a tax return. The costs of the motor-voter law are minimal, especially when considering the payoff in increased citizen participation.

Even my own home state of Michigan is now resisting this great effort to eliminate the final barriers to full enfranchisement, and of this I am ashamed. Mr. Speaker, it is a national disgrace if America is permitted to return to its darkest period, when millions of citizens were systematically denied equal access to the franchise, and ultimately their power to govern. It is a disgrace that this country simply cannot afford.

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. LEWIS], for reserving this Special Order. I am pleased to join him for a discussion of the motor-voter law. The National Voter Registration Act was signed into law by President Clinton on May 20, 1993. The law requires motor vehicle bureaus, welfare offices and other public agencies to offer voter registration services. Today, we gather to mark the two year anniversary of this successful legislative initiative.

The motor-voter law took effect on January 1, 1995. It is noted that during the months of January and February alone, more than 630,000 citizens across the country registered to vote. Analysts predict that next year, as many as 20 million Americans will be added to the ranks of the voting population. Not since the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which removed obstacles that had kept many African-Americans from the voting booth, have so many new voters registered to vote.

Mr. Speaker, the road to passage of national voter registration laws has not been an easy one. Many in this Chamber will recall that efforts to establish a national voter registration system followed closely on the heels of the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. During the 1970's, a substantial effort was made to implement a national voter "post-card" or mail registration system. Efforts also focused on the passage of a national voter registration standard that would have allowed

citizens to register to vote on election day. Both measures failed to be enacted by both the House and Senate.

During the 1980's, we celebrated the enactment of several voter registration measures. In 1984, Congress passed the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act. The Act established national requirements for making polling places more accessible to the elderly and the handicapped, and provided greater access to absentee ballots for these individuals. The Uniform and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act required States to permit absentee uniformed service personnel and overseas voters to use absentee registration procedures, and to vote by absentee ballot in federal elections.

Mr. Speaker, the goal of the National Voter Registration Act is to simplify voter registration, thereby encouraging citizens to participate in the election process. In addition to making it easier for individuals to register to vote, the Act also provides more than adequate measures to prevent voter fraud by making violations of the Act a federal offense. Further, the cost that states bear to implement the motor-voter law has proven to be minimal.

As we celebrate the success of the motor-voter law, we must ensure that this important Act is not repealed. We must also ensure that all states are in compliance with the motor-voter law. In the United States, 80 percent of our nation's youth, those 18 or 19 years of age, apply for driver's licenses. Yet, fewer than 40 percent of this age population is registered to vote. We have a responsibility to make certain that all Americans are participants in the electoral process. The motor-voter law represents an important step in achieving this objective.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join Congressman LEWIS for this special order. He has played a major role in securing and protecting the voting rights of minority citizens and others. I applaud his leadership, and I offer my full support of his efforts.

#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF APHIS EMPLOYEES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. DE LA GARZA] is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Speaker, we stand here today in memory of the seven employees of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, those that were tragically murdered in the bomb blast at the A.P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City on April 19, 1995. The explosion murdered scores of innocent children and adults, injured hundreds, shattered innumerable lives, and shook the soul of the Nation. We remember them all.

But today we mention the 15 employees stationed in the building at the time of the explosion. By stroke of providence, five of the employees were not in the building at the time. Three of the employees left the building

alive. The remaining seven were killed in the explosion.

Mr. Speaker, I personally feel some kinship with these APHIS employees. My father in his late years worked for APHIS. He was a proud, dedicated, loyal employee, as were these who worked in that building and the seven that we lost.

Today the Department of Agriculture held a day of remembrance to honor the victims and survivors, continuing the tradition of planting trees to honor those we have lost. These employees were dedicated workers who have left a legacy of service to all citizens. They have one thing in common: They died serving their country.

As APHIS employees, these men and women were on the front lines working in the heartland of America to improve agriculture productivity and to protect our public health. These employees were beloved by families and friends and cannot be replaced. I know all of us here today and people throughout the country and the world embrace their families and friends in their sorrow and join me in paying tribute to them.

I hope that somehow the American people might learn and grow closer from this tragic incident. What we must learn is that the agenda of a small minority of anti-government terrorists is based on extremism and hatred and has no place in America. We must also learn respect for our Federal workers who are trying hard every day to make this government work.

On April 22, the Washington Post printed an editorial entitled "Federal Employees." I will include that for the RECORD, Mr. Speaker.

#### FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Some of them are still buried in the rubble. Some are hospitalized, perhaps broken in body, if not in spirit, for the rest of their lives. Others will be memorialized by the nation tomorrow. They are part of the group of an estimated 550 women and men who earned their living in that federal building in Oklahoma City. They are federal workers.

The next time you are tempted to go off on the federal work force, as if those employed inside federal office buildings constitute nothing more than a financial threat to the Republic, think of that gutted facility in Oklahoma City. But don't stop there.

Suspects in this country's worst bombing in 70 years are now in custody. Credit a swiftly launched, massive round-the-clock investigation conducted by thousands of law-enforcement agents and officers around the country—yet more federal government workers of that nameless, faceless, much-denounced variety. When you are tempted to indulge in easy, all-purpose, indiscriminate rhetoric about slow, cumbersome and complacent federal bureaucrats caught up in an entitlement mentality, think of the men and women in law-enforcement agencies such as the FBI, Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and Secret Service who dropped everything to be part of the manhunt. They, too, like their colleagues who were at work in the devastated Oklahoma City building, are federal workers.

The Oklahoma City bombing, as tragic as it is, is not the first time federal employees have found themselves putting so much on the line by mere reason of their association with the U.S. government. Far away from

the national spotlight, in places as remote as Khartoum and Karachi, federal workers on the front lines have paid the ultimate sacrifice in service of their country. Women and men on the federal payroll in those locations bear the title of Foreign Service officer, or AID worker, or U.S. Embassy staff. But they pursue the same basic mission that employees of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Social Security, the Food and Drug and the General Services administrations and other federal agencies in Oklahoma City are also about: They are trying to make their government work. And most work long and hard to make that happen.

So the next time you feel yourself about to deliver categorical thoughts about federal workers not having to work for a bottom line and getting caught up in process rather than results and all the other easy words of generalized contempt that serve to undermine respect for the work these famously "faceless" workers actually perform, consider the possibility that they are good people who not only work hard but also are committed to the work they perform in our behalf. That is why so many of them were where they were when evil visited them Wednesday morning in Oklahoma City. It's worth remembering.

Mr. Speaker, what brought us closer was that these are good people, who not only work hard, but also are committed to the work they perform in our behalf. That is why so many of them worked where they work when evil visited them that Wednesday morning in Oklahoma City.

It is worth remembering. I hope in tribute to them, all of us, the Nation, have respect, the proper admiration for those. I know it is very easy to say bureaucrat or say Federal employee sometimes in a negative, derogatory way. But, Mr. Speaker, these seven died serving their country and serving us.

I yield to my distinguished colleague from Oklahoma who represents that district.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday morning, April 19, at 2 minutes after 9 o'clock, America's heartland lost its innocence. The bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Building in downtown Oklahoma City was a cowardly act of tragic proportions, with no justification. I, like you and the Nation as a whole, will never forget the scene or the devastation, the death, the suffering, and, most of all, the innocence of the victims.

I cannot begin to express the heart-break and sense of helplessness one feels when faced with such a gruesome scene. As each day has passed since this crime, the spirit, courage, resourcefulness that exemplifies our great Nation has been displayed. Our outrage, while still in mind, has been superseded by charity, kindness, prayer and healing.

This evening, I join with heavy heart the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, Mr. ROBERTS, and the equally distinguished ranking member of the committee, Mr. DE LA GARZA, to memorialize the employees of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service who lost their lives in this bombing. While the building resided in

my district, a number of these good folks were my constituents.

With that, I would like to thank my colleagues for organizing this special order this evening.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Speaker, I yield to my distinguished colleague, the chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, Mr. ROBERTS.

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to, as has been said, honor the memory of the men and women and children who lost their lives in the Oklahoma City bombing. Among killed, as has been said, were the seven employees of the Department of Agriculture agency called the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. It is commonly known by its acronym as APHIS. As chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, along with the committee's distinguished ranking member, Mr. DE LA GARZA and the gentleman from Oklahoma, Mr. LUCAS, and other members of the committee and Members of the Oklahoma delegation, we gather here this evening to pay a special tribute to these seven employees and the families and friends that they leave behind.

Mr. Speaker, the decision to take this special order came from many members of the House Committee on Agriculture who wanted to pay their respects. As chairman of the committee, I wish to pay, however, a special tribute to a long-time employee of the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Carl Barnes, who was the Personnel Director for the department under Secretary of Agriculture Mr. Orville Freeman. Mr. Barnes served under several Presidents and continues to be an example and champion of public service. He also just happens to be a good neighbor and brought to my attention the article by Steve Twomey in the Washington Post entitled "They walk, they talk, and they bleed." Mr. Twomey wrote his column following the tragedy in Oklahoma City, and I think it is fitting and appropriate that this article be brought to the attention of our colleagues and to everyone concerned, as it has been all too easy when people are unhappy with the way that our government works, or does not work, that we point a finger of blame at the hard working men and women who make up our Federal work force.

Excerpts from his article include, "To get there, you march down a long, gloomy, marble corridor, devoid of human touches. Doors slip by at an exact spacing and interval. Nothing distinguishes one office from the next, except small signs identifying the occupants and their titles. Yes, this fits. Cold is how the bureaucracy is supposed to look. It is tempting to imagine Federal gnomes in here dreaming up costly regulations, wasting forms in triplicate, and funding cost-plus contracts with your money, because that is what you imagine the Federal workers do. Your escort, and yes, while security is tight, walks you to room 312-

E, which is to say the third floor east of the administration building, the United States Department of Agriculture. It is an older but attractive building along the Mall that exudes government formality right down to the flower beds on Jefferson Drive.

What a sign hanging outside 312E: Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. You think it even sounds make-work. "60 Minutes" would love this office, which, naturally, has a government acronym, APHIS, pronounced A-fus.

You enter, and from an inner room emerges not a bureaucrat, not a GS-level, not an anonymous cog in the federal machine, but a human, who has a name and, at the moment, feelings so overwhelming you hesitate to ask about them.

Lonnie King, in dark suit and white shirt, a man of average build with graying hair but a youthful and pleasant face, has served APHIS for 17 of his 51 years, rising to acting administrator.

"Here's a ribbon," he says, "from Oklahoma City."

He tosses a purple one on the table in front of you. He carried it home Sunday, after the memorial service. Does the public know what APHIS does? What the seven did?

"No," King says. "No."

The 6,500 people who work for him can be found in every state and even overseas. The federal budget says they "protect the animal and plant resources of the nation from destructive pests and diseases." They help farmers, monitor imports, do research. What that means for you is better, more abundant and cheaper food on the table, be it at home or in a restaurant. Before that Wednesday, King certainly knew that the reputation of The Federal Employee wasn't what it used to be.

"We're not immune to the press and the TV," he says. Comedians, journalists and talk-show hosts have made mincemeat of the type, calling them wasteful, incompetent, dangerous. King took the contempt personally, because it clashed with his view, which was that he was surrounded by people who cared, who showed up every day, not for the paycheck, not to waste, but to serve.

"Who thinks of us in those terms?" he says. "Is it that bad, that we're so hated? Could it happen here? Am I safe?"

In a way, the bombing also was an attack on this region, the capital region, on the 360,004 civilians here who do Uncle Sam's tasks. We often forget that they got those tasks from us, through Congress. It is we who have told them to provide clean air and water, stop the flow of drugs, help farmers, process Social Security checks, promote trade, protect workers and much more.

Do they perform flawlessly? Of course not. Who does?

The irony of the bombing, King says, is that the perpetrator benefited every

day from what APHIS does, every time he ate. "He was probably degrading the government with his mouth full," King says, "and dumb enough not to understand."

Yes, Linnie King is angry.

"I'm not blaming anybody," King says, "but I hope people will stop and think and ask themselves about what's being said."

He leaves you with this.

Monday morning, with seven of their colleagues still buried in the rubble, two of three APHIS workers who survived went back to work in temporary offices.

Mr. Speaker, today special ceremonies were held by the Department in behalf of the service deceased employees. In keeping with these ceremonies, it is our privilege to honor each individual with a brief tribute.

Olen Bloomer is survived by his adult daughters, Maureen Bloomer and Lucretia Bjorklund; his son, Lee Switzer; four grandchildren, Amelia, Heather, Jeff, and Sara; and one great granddaughter, Dillon Ann. His memory will be cherished by seven siblings—Ester Willis, Elwanda McComas, Merle Easter, Erdene Jones, Doyle Blommer, Dean Bloomer, and Dennis Blommer. He was preceded in death by his wife of 26 years, Norma Jean, who passed away in 1990.

Olen was born in Elk City, Oklahoma, in 1933, and spent his youth working on his father's cotton farm near the Beckham-Washita county line. A few years after graduating from Highway High School, Olen joined the U.S. Air Force, where he served in a number of locations, including Thailand. His work in the Air Force focused on purchasing and inventory management. He retired in 1974 after 20 years of service.

Olen went back to work for the Federal government in 1977, this time for APHIS. Olen began this second career at the screwworm rearing lab in Mission, Texas. He was subsequently reassigned to Salt Lake City, Utah, where he worked for 5 years as an administrative assistant. He was serving as the budget assistant for Oklahoma at the time of his death.

Olen labored to keep the agency's budget trim and in order and was admired by the staff he supported for his ability to stay cool under pressure and cut through the bureaucratic red tape when emergencies struck. He was always willing to help and volunteered ably at troubleshooting computer problems. His grandchildren called him "Big Dad," not only out of deference to his 6-foot, 6-inch stature, but to distinguish him from their fathers. He was a true gentle giant and will be sorely missed by many.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Speaker, I yield to my distinguished colleague the gentleman from Oklahoma.

Mr. LUCAS. Jim Boles is survived by his loving wife of 12 years, Jennifer, his 8-year-old son, James Michael, and adult son, Stephen, and his family in Mississippi.

Jim was born in Quitman, Mississippi. He attended Lake High School in Lake, MS and graduated in 1964. He entered the U.S. Army in 1964 and served as the noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the 793rd military police battalion, a small M.P. detachment, in Bayreuth, West Germany. Upon leaving the U.S. Army in 1968, Jim managed an oil station and served as accounting clerk for State Beverage Company, both in Jackson, MS.

In 1970, Jim joined APHIS where he worked for the next 25 years. During his tenure with APHIS, he made many friends throughout the Department and lived in Mississippi, Florida, Maryland, and finally, Oklahoma. Jim met his wife Jennifer through APHIS.

As administrative officer for APHIS' Veterinary Services office in Oklahoma City, Jim helped develop new and better ways of conducting the various administrative functions Government agencies must carry out. His progressive ideas paved the way for innovative resource—and responsibility—sharing with sister branches that saved the Government both time and money.

Above and beyond his on-the-job duties, he will be remembered for encouraging, guiding and helping develop his coworkers' career goals. But his foremost concern was the well-being of his colleagues as people. He was careful to recognize fellow employees for their accomplishments and service to the community and agency. We all will miss his smile, sense of humor, and dedication.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Speaker, Margaret Louis Clark was known by her many friends and colleagues as Peggy. She is survived by her loving husband, David Spencer, three daughters, Rosslyn 16, Margaret Blayne 13, and Chelsea 6, her mother Mary Spurlin, and sister, Susan Winchester. Peggy was 42.

A native of Chichasha, OK, Peggy attended Star Spencer High School in Oklahoma City. Her academic achievements were all made at Oklahoma State University, where she earned a bachelor of science degree in agriculture in 1976, and a doctorate of veterinary medicine degree in 1978. After completing her studies, Peggy began veterinary private practice placing special emphasis on the equine industry.

In 1981, Peggy worked for the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture as a staff veterinarian and coordinated Federal/State disease control programs. In 1985, she moved over to the State of Oklahoma's Horse Racing Commission. As the official veterinarian, she performed pre- and post-race examinations. Peggy joined APHIS in 1994 as part of a Federal training program called the Public Veterinary Practice Career Program. Her assignment to the Oklahoma City office as a Veterinary medical officer was part of that developmental training.

Outside of the office, Peggy was very involved in the lives of her children

and was active in horse shows, livestock shows, and soccer. She was an active and popular member of the Oklahoma Veterinary Medical Association, and helped run her family's horse breeding operation. Peggy was appointed by the Governor to serve a 6-year term on the Oklahoma State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, where she served as secretary. Although she was the newest member of the Veterinary Service staff in Oklahoma City, Peggy's outgoing personality, willingness to help, and professional competence made her a most welcome addition.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished chairman of the committee.

Mr. ROBERTS. Richard Leroy Cummins' memory will be cherished by a large and loving family, including his wife of 30 years, Frances; his daughters, Courtney and Nikki; his son, Kraig; grandsons Chayse and Austin; his mother, Christine; his two brothers, Wall, of Tucson, AZ, and Frank of Ruidosa, NM; and many friends and coworkers.

Dick was born in Douglas, AZ, in 1940. He spent his youth in and around Douglas and graduated from Douglas High School in 1957. He then attended Arizona State University in Tempe, AZ, where he pursued studies in business administration.

Dick's notable career as a public servant began with the U.S. Air Force in 1959, where he worked in aircraft maintenance in Colorado and Oklahoma for 4 years. Upon leaving the Air Force, he worked for the Southern Pacific Railroad for 2 years.

In 1965, Dick joined the U.S. Department of Agriculture, where his professional contributions were welcomed for 30 years. He first worked with the Agricultural Research Service on the screwworm eradication program in Douglas, AZ. In 1980, he moved to Henryetta, OK, and became Animal Health Technician. A short time later he moved to Durant, OK, where he served in the same capacity. Dick was promoted to investigator in 1987 and reassigned to Oklahoma City to work with the Regulatory Enforcement and Animal Care staff. In this position, Dick was responsible for ensuring that animal breeders, dealers, and exhibitors comply with the standards of humane care and treatment prescribed in the Animal Welfare Act. Dick moved again to Mustang, OK, where he continued to work as an investigator working out of his home. He was a senior investigator at the time of his death.

Dick received well-deserved recognition in 1990 for his work on the Midwest Stolen Dog Task Force. His diligence helped curb the theft of pets for sale to research institutions. Dick was a devoted family man, animal lover and advocated human treatment of all living things.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. LUCAS].

Mr. LUCAS. Known by her many admiring friends and relatives as Adele, Doris Adele Higgenbottom is survived by her loving husband, David; his children, Kelly and Van; her mother, Melanie; and the Maddox family. She was 44.

Adele was born in Pecos, TX, and graduated from Pecos High School in 1968. Several years later, Adele resumed her studies at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, OK, where she earned a bachelor of arts degree in English in 1982.

Adele began her Federal career with APHIS as a clerk/typist in Oklahoma City in 1978. A few years later, she transferred to the Federal Aviation Administration where she served as a purchasing agent. In 1980, she resigned from the FAA and went to San Antonio, TX, to spend a few months with her family. While there, she worked as an advertising salesperson for the San Antonio Express and News. She rejoined APHIS in Oklahoma City in late 1980 as she mastered the often complicating purchasing regulations.

Adele was popular in the Oklahoma City office, as much for her positive outlook as her animated personality. Adele served as manager of the Federal Women's Program and was an ardent supporter of equality and women's rights. Adele and her husband, David, met in 1989 through David's work with the State Department of Agriculture.

Adele was heard to say she was happy to be married to someone with whom she could share so much of her professional life and who cared about the same people and issues she did. David and Adele considered themselves a happy and compatible team whose personalities and interests complemented each other well.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Carole Sue Khalil is survived by her daughter, Heather, and many loving relatives and friends. She was 50.

Carole was born in Shattuck, OK, and attended Laverne High School in Laverne, OK. She graduated in 1962. Following graduation, she attended the Draughtons School of Business in Oklahoma City for 1 year where she completed an executive secretarial course. Already she had big plans to serve her country and the civic good as a public servant.

Carole began a lifelong commitment to the U.S. Government in 1964 when she took the first of several temporary positions in the clerical field with the Internal Revenue Service in Oklahoma City. Her career with the U.S. Department of Agriculture began with the Agriculture Research Service's Animal Health Division in 1967. In this position, which was based in Oklahoma City, Carole provided clerical support to a variety of animal disease eradication programs.

Carole was promoted to export document examiner in 1992. In this position, she provided critical review of documents used to clarify the health of all animals exported from Oklahoma to

other countries. Her eye for detail and ability to catch even minute errors were among the reasons she was a valuable contributor to the staff.

Carole also took care of many routine personnel functions, such as time and attendance reports, training nominations, personnel reports and benefit actions. She was an able and dedicated employee whose contributions were appreciated by everyone with whom she worked.

□ 2045

I yield to my chairman, the gentleman from Kansas [Mr. ROBERTS].

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. Speaker, Rheta Long is survived by a large and loving family, including her daughter, Valerie Tramel; son, John; sisters, Wilda York and Leona Thompson; and grandsons, Kenneth and Christopher Tramel, and Nicholas Long. Rheta was preceded in death by her husband of 11 years, Thomas; her brothers Earl and Andrew Dean Bender; father, Andrew Bender; and grandson, John Thomas. Rheta was 60.

Rheta was born in Guymon, OK. She attended Guymon High School and graduated in 1952. Afterwards, she attended Panhandle State College and Phillips University to study education. She earned a bachelor of science degree in education in 1955.

Rheta was married in the summer of 1955 and dedicated herself to her family and church. She was an active volunteer with the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America. In 1968, Rheta began teaching mathematics in Guymon and found the experience rewarding. She said it was a pleasure to show children that school and learning could be fun.

Rheta began her 20-year Federal career in 1974 as a military personnel clerk with the U.S. Army. In 1978, Rheta transferred to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Guymon, OK, to take a clerical position. Rheta came to APHIS in Oklahoma City in October 1982, where she served as a program clerk. She handled workers' compensation claims, and was the final authority on payment eligibility for indemnity claims. She was very active in the Federal Employees Women's Group and Equal Employment Opportunities Committees. Rheta had a vision disability and she served as the Persons with Disabilities Special Emphasis Program Manager as a means of helping educate people about the challenges of working with a physical handicap.

Rheta was active with the Christian Women's Foundation and looked forward to the Jewel Box Theater's seasonal plays. A devoted grandmother, Rheta was very proud of her grandchildren and kept snapshots of them at her desk. Her dedication, cheerful attitude, and many contributions to the effectiveness of the office helped many of her coworkers in their time of need. She will be greatly missed by all.

Mr. Speaker, the members of the Committee on Agriculture, the chair of

the Committee on Agriculture, the distinguished chairman emeritus of the Committee on Agriculture, and the gentleman from Oklahoma, [Mr. LUCAS], share in the sense of personal loss and share in the sense of personal pride regarding the contribution of these employees. Perhaps an appropriate closing is this from Helen Steiner Rice.

When I must leave you for a little while,  
Please go on bravely with a gallant smile  
And for my sake and in my name,  
Live on and do all things the same—  
Spend not your life in empty days,  
But fill each waking hour in useful ways—  
Reach out your hand in comfort and cheer,  
And I in turn will comfort you and hold you near.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from Texas for taking this special time.

Mr. DE LA GARZA. I thank my distinguished colleague.

Mr. Speaker, if I might add a personal note, we notice that Mr. Bloomer served at the screwworm eradication plant in Mission, TX, the years when my father worked there, so I feel certain that they knew each other in those days and they have already found each other up there and they are talking about the good old days at the plant in Mission.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my two colleagues. The seven that we lost not only belonged to APHIS, to USDA, they belonged to our Nation and they belong now to all of us. May they rest in peace.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the subject of my special order this evening.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. NETHERCUTT). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. HANSEN (at the request of Mr. ARMEY), for today and the balance of the week, on account of official business relating to base closings.

Mr. McNULTY (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for today after 2 p.m., on account of personal business.

Mr. KLECZKA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for the week of May 22, on account of medical reasons.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. LOFGREN) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.  
Mr. OWENS, for 5 minutes, today.  
Mr. DOGGETT, for 5 minutes, today.  
Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. EHRLICH) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today and on May 25.

Mr. EHLERS, for 5 minutes, today and on May 25.

Mr. BRYANT of Tennessee, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BILBRAY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KINGSTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

#### EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. LOFGREN) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. FOGLIETTA.

Mr. STARK.

Mr. STOKES.

Mr. VISCLOSKEY.

Mr. SCHUMER.

Mr. MENENDEZ.

Mr. MORAN.

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin.

Mr. MINETA.

Mr. HOYER in two instances.

Mr. RICHARDSON in four instances.

Mr. FORD.

Mr. ENGEL.

Mrs. KENNELLY.

Mr. CLAY.

Mr. RUSH.

Mr. TUCKER.

Mr. BONIOR in two instances.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. EHRLICH) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. DAVIS.

Mr. RIGGS.

Mr. PACKARD.

Mr. FORBES in two instances.

Mr. SMITH of Washington.

Mrs. ROUKEMA.

Mr. LEWIS of California.

Mr. LIGHTFOOT.

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina.

Mr. SOLOMON.

Mr. CHAMBLISS.

Mr. TALENT.

Mr. SHADEGG.

Mr. MCCOLLUM.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. DE LA GARZA) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. GILMAN.

Mr. SHAW.

Mr. WELLER.

Mr. BARCIA.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee had examined and

found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1421. An Act to provide that references in the statutes of the United States to any committee or officer of the House of Representatives the name or jurisdiction of which was changed as part of the reorganization of the House of Representatives at the beginning of the One Hundred Fourth Congress shall be treated as referring to the currently applicable committee or officer of the House of Representatives.

#### BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee did on this day present to the President, for his approval, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1421. An act to provide that references in the statutes of the United States to any committee or officer of the House of Representatives the name or jurisdiction of which was changed as part of the reorganization of the House of Representatives at the beginning of the One Hundred Fourth Congress shall be treated as referring to the currently applicable committee or officer of the House of Representatives.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 51 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until Thursday, May 25, 1995, at 10 a.m.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

909. A letter from the Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the defense environmental quality program annual report to Congress for fiscal year 1994, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2706(b)(1); to the Committee on National Security.

910. A communication the President of the United States, transmitting his follow-up report on the deployment of United States combat-equipped aircraft to support NATO's enforcement of the no-fly zone in Bosnia and Herzegovina (H. Doc. No. 104-79); to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 5 of rule X and clause 4 of rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Mr. HOUGHTON):

H.R. 1690. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify certain rules relating to the taxation of U.S. business operating abroad, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LAZIO of New York:

H.R. 1691. A bill to provide for innovative approaches for homeownership opportunity and provide for the temporary extension of